TV relay centre in Siwan, Bihar

1150. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received by Government to open a TV relay centre at Siwan, Bihar, birth place of Dr. Rajendra Prasad;

(b) whether Government are aware that Siwan town is not covered by either Patna or Gorakhpur TV Station; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider to start a TV relay centre at Siwan which is also the birth place of Dr. Syed Mohammad and Maulana Mazrul Haq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At present Siwan Town is getting fringe service from TV transmitter at Gorakhpur. On augmentation of power of Patna TV transmitter to 10 KW, Siwan is expected to get improved TV coverage. There is at present, however, no approved scheme for installation of a TV transmitter at Siwan

New sugar policy

1151. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to announce a new sugar policy; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of new sugar policy?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Government are reviewing the question of the licensing policy for the Seventh Plan.

(b) The review of the licensing policy is still in a preliminary stage, therefore, question does not arise.

Effect of rainfall on Major Crops

1152. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the likely effect of the erratic rainfall this year on major crops, food-grains, cereals and oil-seeds; and

(b) what is the estimate of major crops during kharif season this year and to what extent it is comparable with that of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) The behaviour of South-west monsoon so far has been quite satisfactory in most parts of the country. This is likely to be beneficial for kharif crops in general including foodgrains and oilseeds.

(b) All India kharif production for major crops during 1983-84 and 1984-85 is given below:—